



## YorkCounts eyes education as summit topic

**ANDREW SHAW** The York Dispatch

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YorkCounts will use its annual summit to focus on education in York County.

The nonprofit quality-of-life group has made education its priority in 2011, said spokesman Dan Fink, and will bring lawmakers, educators and state officials together to discuss it at the Thursday, April 14, "State of the Schools: A Countywide Education Summit."

The summit, which runs from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., is open to the public and will be held at Penn State York's Pullo Center.

The hope is to get a few topics "people in this room agree are worth working on," Fink said, and have lawmakers and educators take that back to their respective groups to start the work.

Budget cuts, coordinating cross-district efforts, and community participation in schools will be among the focus areas.

District consolidation, a hot-button issue YorkCounts has broached in the past, will likely not be a featured discussion point, Fink said. The summit won't promote any particular YorkCounts viewpoint.

The event will include a series of morning presentations about public education at the local, state and national levels, an expert panel discussion and question-and-answer session and will conclude with "specific actionable recommendations," according to YorkCounts.

Reservations are required for the free event, with discounted boxed lunches available. To register, send an e-mail by April 7 with your name, phone number and the school district you reside in to [events@yorkcounts.org](mailto:events@yorkcounts.org). Indicate a lunch preference of turkey, ham, chicken salad, tuna salad or veggie.

For more information, call Fink at 650-1460, or e-mail him at [dfink@yorkcounts.org](mailto:dfink@yorkcounts.org).

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